

Message Text

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ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

FEAE-00 OMB-01 NEA-10 EUR-12 /122 W

----- 116235

P R 131420Z AUG 76

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1833

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MTN GENEVA 6522

ACTION STR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MTN

SUBJ: AMBASSADOR DENT VISIT TO LDC CAPITALS

1. MTN DEL AWARE SEVERAL US EMBASSIES IN ASEAN AREA
HAVE COUNSELLED AGAINST AMBASSADOR DENT TAKING INITIATIVE
OF MEETING WITH ASEAN COUNTRIES AS A GROUP DURING HIS
VISIT TO AREA, AND STR HAS ACCORDINGLY DROPPED THE
IDEA. HERE IN GENEVA IN PAST COUPLE OF DAYS, WE HAVE
RECEIVED A STRONG SIGNAL IN FAVOR OF AMBASSADOR DENT
MEETING WITH ASEAN COUNTRIES AS A GROUP TO DISCUSS THE
MTN. OCTOBER 4-5 MEETING OF ASEAN TRADE OFFICIALS (FROM
CAPITALS AND GENEVA) IN KUALA LUMPUR WAS MENTIONED
AS A POSSIBILITY. SINGAPORE DEL IS RECOMMENDING TO HIS
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AUTHORITIES THAT AMBASSADOR DENT BE INVITED. WE PASS

ON FOLLOWING DETAILS IN EVENT SUCH AN INVITATION MATERIALIZES
OF IF AMBASSADOR DENT'S SCHEDULE IS REOPENED FOR OTHER
REASONS.

2. KEY ASEAN REPRESENTATIVE CURRENTLY RESIDENT IN
GENEVA IS SINGAPORE CHARGE TAN, KEN JIN. (UNTIL
RECENTLY AMBASSADOR PETER LAI OF MALAYSIA FILLED
THIS ROLE BUT HE HAS JUST TAKEN JOB AS HEAD OF TIN
COUNCIL IN LONDON.) WHEN PROBABILITY OF AMBASSADOR
DENT'S VISIT TO ASEAN CAPITALS WAS RAISED, TAN INFORMED
MTN DEL (GRAEF) THAT ASEAN TRADE OFFICIALS WILL HOLD THEIR
TENTH MEETING IN KUALA LUMPUR ON OCTOBER 4-5 TO
COORDINATE ASEAN POSITION FOR MTN. THIS MEETING
WILL INVOLVE SENIOR OFFICIALS FROM ASEAN CAPITALS
AND IS INTENDED TO SET BROAD POLICY LINES ASEAN WILL
FOLLOW IN THE MTN, SUBJECT TO ON-THE-SPOT COORDI-
NATION THROUGH ESTABLISHED ASEAN GENEVA COMMITTEE
(AGC). AGC HAS MET REGULARLY IN GENEVA SINCE
BEGINNING OF MTN TO DISCUSS AND FORMULATE MTN
POSITIONS. AGC HAS RECEIVED CONSIDERABLE TECHNICAL
SUPPORT FROM ESCAP MTN PROJECT DIRECTED BY RAZON
HUERESCO OF PHILIPPINES. AGC MET AUGUST 11 TO
DEVELOP THE AGENDA FOR KUALA LUMPUR MEETING.

3. TAN SAID HE FEELS US HAS NOT RECOGNIZED GROWING
COHESIVENESS OF ASEAN ON TRADE MATTERS, AT LEAST NOT
TO EXTENT EC HAS. (EXAMPLE TAN CITED INCLUDED
PLURILATERAL CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN EC AND ASEAN ON
TROPICAL PRODUCTS IN GENEVA.) TAN ALSO SAID SOME
ASPECTS OF US REQUEST LISTS ADDRESSED TO INDIVIDUAL
ASEAN COUNTRIES IN CONTEXT OF MTN TROPICAL PRODUCTS
NEGOTIATIONS DID NOT APPEAR TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT
WHAT IS GOING ON IN ASEAN, FOR EXAMPLE, US REQUESTS
FOR TARIFF CONCESSIONS ON DIESEL ENGINES FROM ASEAN
COUNTRIES WOULD TEND TO UNDERMINE ASEAN PRODUCTION
ALLOCATION DECISION GIVING SINGAPORE EXCLUSIVE RIGHT
TO PRODUCE DIESEL ENGINES FOR SALE IN ASEAN COUNTRIES.

4. TAN INDICATED THAT PREVIOUS NINE ASEAN MTN
SESSIONS HAVE BEEN CLOSED THUS QUESTION OF PRECEDENT
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MAY MAKE INVITATION DIFFICULT. DURING AGC AUGUST 11
MEETING TAN FLOATED NOTION OF OPENING TENTH SESSION
TO INCLUDE THIRD COUNTRIES. AGC DISCUSSION
INCONCLUSIVE. ONLY RESERVATION EXPRESSED WAS
PRECEDENT WHICH COULD NOT BE DECIDED IN GENEVA. TAN
PLANS TO RECOMMEND TO HIS AUTHORITIES THAT AMBASSADOR
DENT BE INVITED. CULBERT

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NNN

Message Attributes

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